



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,130	11/13/2001	Orly Yadid-Pecht	56156628-2	6363
26453	7590	12/29/2004	EXAMINER	
BAKER & MCKENZIE			DANG, DUY M	
805 THIRD AVENUE			ART UNIT	
NEW YORK, NY 10022			PAPER NUMBER	
			2621	

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/053,130	YADID-PECHT, ORLY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Duy M Dang	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/22/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

-In this case, instant abstract contains more than 240 words.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

It is noted that on page 8 lines 12-20 of the instant specification, it refers to "Figs. 2A to

2D. However, there is no such figures included in the drawings.

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

(a) The following terms, for example, are considered lacking suitable antecedent basis.

-In claim 1, "the difference" in lines 16 and 25, "the block size" in line 17, "the following steps" in line 18, "the represented value of each sub-block" in line 22, "the stored represented value of each sub-block" in line 23, "the stored represented value of its adjacent sub-block" in line 24, "the represented value of the pixels" in line 28-29;

Art Unit: 2621

-In claim 2, “the attribute value” in line 1; In claim 3, “the average value” in line 2; In claim 4, “the variance value” in line 2; In claim 5, “the standard deviation” in line 2; In claim 6, the “difference” and “the maximal” in line 2 and “the minimal” in line 3; In claim 7, “the stored represented value” in line 1; In claim 10, “the transmission” in line 4;

-In claim 11, “the portion” in line 5, and “the next group” in lines 6-7;

-In claim 12, “the analog value” in line 5, “the pixels attributes” in lines 5-6, “the difference” in lines 9-10, “the represented value” in lines 10 and 11, “the operations” in lines 18 and 19;

-In claim 14, “the pixel’s intensity” in lines 1-2; and

-In claim 17, “the transmission” in line 4.

Dependent claims 2-11 and 13-18 are also rejected for the same reasons as above.

(b) The phrase “the said data storage bank” in claim 12 line 17 ought to be changed to “said data storage bank”.

Applicant is advised to review and correct claim language in response to this Office Action.

5. Claims 1-18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the closest prior art [USPN 5,909,026] fails to teach or suggest the features of: defining a pixel attribute value that can be represented by an analogue value; determining a threshold level for said pixel attribute value; calculating a represented value for each block and storing said represented value; comparing the represented value of each block to

Art Unit: 2621

the represented value of its adjacent blocks; whenever the difference between two adjacent compared blocks is greater than said threshold level and as long as the block size is larger than one pixel, performing the following steps: (1) dividing said adjacent compared blocks into sub-blocks, each of which containing $A/2 \times B/2$ pixels and storing data related to the division of said adjacent compared blocks into sub-blocks, 2) calculating the represented value for each sub-block, and 3) comparing the stored represented value of each sub-block to the stored represented value of its adjacent sub-blocks; and whenever the difference between two adjacent compared blocks or sub-blocks is lower than, or equal to, said threshold level, representing said blocks or sub-blocks by representative pixels with identical attribute level which is equal to the represented value of the pixels that correspond to said compared block or sub-block, thereby compressing said image.

Dependent claims 2-11 are also allowable for the same reasons as above.

Regarding claim 12, the closest prior art [USPN 5,909,026] fails to teach or suggest the features of: sensor means for sensing the analog values defines as the pixels attributes; circuitry for calculating a represented value from said attributes for said group of pixels; a set of one or more comparators for comparing the difference between the represented value of said group of pixels and the represent value of another group of pixels, to a predetermined threshold value; circuitry for storing data that represent one or more adjacent groups of pixels, for which said difference is not greater than said represented value; and control circuitry for controlling data transfer between said two dimensional array and the said data storage bank, for controlling the operations said calculating circuitry, for controlling the operations of said set of one or more comparators and for controlling data transfer into said storage circuitry.

Art Unit: 2621

Dependent claims 13-18 are also allowable for the same reasons as above.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duy M Dang whose telephone number is 703-305-1464. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 5:30AM to 2:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo H Boudreau can be reached on 703-305-4706. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

dmd
12/10/04

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duy M. Dang', with a stylized, cursive script.

Duy M. Dang
Patent Examiner